ARTICLES
OF
ENQUIRY
Concerning certain MATTERS
ECCLESIASTICAL,
EXHIBITED
To the Church-wardens and Side-men of every Pariſh within the
ARCH-DEACONRY
OF
HUNTINGTON;
For their better direction in their Preſentments in the
VISITATION
OF
JOHN HAMMOND,
Arch-Deacon of *HUNTINGTON*.

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The Tenour of the Oath of the Church-wardens and Side-men of every Pariſh.

YOu ſhall well and faithfully execute the Office of Church-wardens (or Side-men) in the Pariſh of **N.** *and true preſentment make of ſuch defaults and offences as are mentioned in the Articles given you in charge, or you know to be enquirable by the laws Eccleſiaſtical of this Land.*

So help you God.

ARTICLES of Inquiry

Within the

Arch-Deaconry of *HUNTINGTON.*

TIT. I.

Concerning Churches and Chappels, with the Poſſeſſions, Furniture and Ornaments thereunto belonging.

1. IS your Church or Chappel, with the Chancel and Steeple thereof, in good and ſufficient repair both within and without?

2. Are all things therein kept orderly and in decent ſort, free from any thing that may be either noiſome or unſeemly?

3. Hath any part thereof been demoliſhed or pulled down? do you know, or have you heard of any perſon who hath imbezelled, or converted to his own uſe any of the Bells, Lead, Timber, or Utenſils thereunto belonging?

4. Have you in your Church or Chappel a large Bible of the laſt tranſlation, the book of Common-Prayer lately eſtabliſhed, the Book of Homilies allowed by authority, the Table of degrees wherein Marriages are prohibited, a Regiſter-book in parchment, for Chriſtenings, Marriages and Burials; a Book for ſuch ſtrangers as Preach, to write their Names and Licenſes in, as alſo another for the Church-wardens accounts? and are the ſame kept in all points as is required?

5. Have you a Font of ſtone ſtanding in the uſual place for publick Baptiſm? and doth your Miniſter therein onely Baptize Publickly?

6. Have you a decent Communion-table, with a Carpet, in the time of Divine-Service, and another covering of white linen, at the time of adminiſtring the Sacrament of the Lords Supper? What cup, chalice, patten or flagons have you belonging to that Service?

7. Have you a convenient Seat or Pew for your Miniſter to read Service in, a comely Pulpit ſet in a convenient place to Preach the Word in, with a decent cloth or cuſhion for the ſame? have you alſo a decent and comely Surplice for the uſe of the Miniſter in his publick adminiſtrations?

8. Have you in your Church a Box for the Alms for the poor, a ſtrong cheſt with locks and keys? and are the Plate, Veſſels, Carpets, Veſtments and Books belonging to the Church ſafely kept therein? and have you a Bier with a Herſe-cloth for the decent Burial of the Dead?

9. Is your Church-yard well and ſufficiently fenced, and decently kept? Have any encroached upon the Ground thereof, or cut down any Trees growing therein, unleſs for neceſſary reparation of the Church or Chancel?

10. Have you in your Pariſh a houſe for your Miniſter to dwell in? Is the ſame, with the out-houſes thereunto belonging, in good and ſufficient repair? Have any of them been defaced or pulled down without Licenſe?

11. Have you a true and perfect Terriar of all the Glebe-lands and tenements belonging to your Parſonage or Vicarage, taken by the view of your Miniſter and other honeſt men of your Pariſh; as alſo a Note of ſuch Penſions, rate-tithes, and portions of tithes both within and without your Pariſh, as belong thereunto? And is a copy thereof delivered into the Biſhops Regiſtry?

12. Is

12. Is there any Alms-houſe, Hoſpital, or Free-School, (being not of the Kings foundation) in your Pariſh? And are they and their endowments preſerved and employed to their right uſe?

13. Have any dying in your Pariſh given any Legacy to the Church or Poor, which hath been miſ-impolyed, and diſpoſed of to other uſes?

TIT. II.

Concerning Miniſters.

1. HAve you a ſetled Miniſter in your Pariſh? If not, how long have you been deſtitute? What is the living yearly worth, and who is the Patron thereof? By whom are the fruits received, and how are they diſpoſed of?

2. Doth your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate audibly and diſtinctly read all Morning and Evening Service; and in reading of the ſame, adminiſtration of the Sacraments, celebration of Marriage, burial of the Dead, and in all other Offices, uſe the form and words preſcribed in the book of Common-Prayer, without any addition, omiſſion, or alteration?

3. Doth he diligently inſtruct the Youth of your Pariſh in the Church-Catechiſm? Doth he read the Canons of the Church publickly once every year, give notice of the Holy-days and Faſting-days, of the Communion, Banns of Matrimony, and Perambulation in *Rogation*-week, read the Briefs and Excommunications delivered to him, and every year publiſh in your Church or Chappel the Statute againſt profane ſwearing and curſing, according as it is enacted 12 *Jac. cap.* 20?

4. Doth he at reading or celebrating any Divine Office in your Church or Chappel conſtantly wear the Surplice, together with ſuch other Scholaſtical Habit as is ſuitable to his degree? and in Preaching doth he wear a Gown? 5. Hath

5. Hath he at any time, that you know of, publickly or otherwiſe ſpoken againſt the Order or Government of the Church of *England* as is now by Law eſtabliſhed?

6. Doth he adminiſter the Sacraments in private houſes otherwiſe than is by law allowed?

7. Doth he permit any ſtrange Miniſter to Preach in your Church or Chappel who is not ſufficiently authorized thereunto?

8. Doth he ſerve more than one Church or Chappel in diſtinct Pariſhes upon one day? If ſo, how far diſtant are thoſe Churches or Chappels which he ſo ſerveth, and what Wages and Salary hath he for his pains?

9. Is your Miniſter a man of a godly, ſober and peaceable converſation? or on the contrary, Is he a frequenter of Taverns or Alehouſes, or doth he board therein? Is he a common Gameſter, a profane Swearer, an obſcene Jeſter, or an intemperate Drinker? Is he vehemently ſuſpected of Incontinency? Is he a fomenter of ſuits and contention among Neighbours? Doth he give himſelf to any baſe or ſervile labour, or ſecular trade, unbefitting the duty and Dignity of his Office? Is his apparel grave and decent, both for faſhion and colour, as the Canons of the Church require? Or is his carriage and converſation in any kind diſorderly, ſcandalous, or unbeſeeming a Miniſter of Jeſus Chriſt?

TIT. III.

Concerning Pariſhioners.

1. DO any of your Pariſh make profeſſion of any other Religion than what is profeſſed and eſtabliſhed in the Church of *England?* Do any reproach the ſame Religion, or ſeduce others from it? Or endeavour to alienate the hearts of the people from their Loyalty and Obedience to the King?

2. Do

2. Do any abſent themſelves from the publick Aſſemblies and Service of the Church, or not come in due time, as well to Service as Sermons, or not behave themſelves, when they are there, with ſuch reverence, order, decency and attention as is required; or depart thence before the Service and Sermon be ended, and the bleſſing pronounced?

3. Do any refuſe to ſend their Infant-children to be Baptized in your Church or Chappel, unleſs in caſe of extreme danger? Or are any children kept unbaptized longer than is allowed? Or are there any more aged perſons yet unbaptized? Or are any children not Communicants admitted to be Godfathers or Godmothers in Baptiſm?

4. Doth every Houſe-holder in your Pariſh cauſe their children and ſervants to come to Church, to learn their Catechiſm, and to give an account thereof unto your Miniſter, that ſo they may be brought to underſtand and take upon them their Baptiſmal covenant, and be confirmed, and admitted Communicants?

5. Do all Communicants in your Pariſh, upon timely notice given by the Miniſter, thrice at the leaſt every year (once whereof at *Eaſter*) in that meek and reverend manner which is required, partake of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper? and do ſuch ſignifie their names and purpoſe to Communicate unto the Miniſter at leaſt the day before the celebration thereof?

6. Do any of your Pariſh repair to other Pariſhes or Miniſters, of them to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper? Or are there any ſtrangers, not of your Pariſh, who forſake their own Churches, and uſually repair to yours for it?

7. Are there any living in your Pariſh, who have been unlawfully married contrary to the laws of God? or any who being lawfully divorced have married again? or any

who

who being lawfully married, and not ſeparated or divorced by due courſe of law, do not cohabit together?

8. Have any been clancularly married in private houſes, or in the Church without licence, the Banns not being thrice publiſhed; or by licence or without, neither of the perſons lo married dwelling at that time in your Town?

9. Do any married Women in your Pariſh after their delivery from the danger of Child-birth, refuſe in due time to make their publick thankſgiving in your Church for ſo great a mercy, or to pay their accuſtomed duties as is required?

10. Do any profane the Lord's day, by working in their ordinary callings, by tipling, gaming, or any unlawful exerciſes or paſtimes?

11. Do any walk, talk, or ſtand idle in the Church-yard, or Church-porch, during the time of Divine Service or Sermon; Or at any other time quarrel, braul, ſmite, or lay violent hands upon one another either in the Church or Church-yard?

12. Have any irreverently uſed your Miniſter, or ſpoken ſlanderous or reproachful words againſt him to the ſcandal of his vocation, or interrupted him in his adminiſtrations?

13. Do any refuſe to pay the Rates aſſeſſed upon them for the repair of the Church or Chappel, and the providing of Books, Utenſils, and other neceſſary Ornaments for the ſame?

14. Are there any in your Pariſh Blaſphemers of Gods Holy Name, any common Drunkards or Swearers, any commonly known or ſuſpected to be guilty of fornication, adultery, inceſt, or any other notorious crime of Eccleſiaſtical cognizance? Declare who they are, that they may be puniſhed according to their deſerts.

TIT. IV.

Concerning Church-wardens.

1. ARe the Church-wardens of your Pariſh yearly and duly choſen? Have the former and laſt Church-wardens given up their accounts to the Miniſter and Pariſhioners, and alſo delivered up to their Succeſſors the moneys remaining in their hands, together with all things elſe belonging to your Church or Chappel?

2. Do they againſt every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel provide a ſufficient quantity of fine white Bread, and of good Wine, according to the number of Communicants?

TIT. V.

Concerning Pariſh-Clerks.

HAve you a Pariſh-Clerk choſen by your Miniſter aged twenty years at leaſt? Is he of ability to perform his duty? and doth he perform the ſame in all reſpects as is required of him? Are his accuſtomed Wages duly paid unto him? or do any withhold the ſame from him?

IF you know any other default or crime of Eccleſiaſtical Co[illegible]ance not expreſt in theſe Articles, you are likewiſe to preſent the ſame, and therein to take the aſſiſtance of your Miniſter.

The Miniſter of every Pariſh may joyn in Preſentment with the Church-wardens and Side-men: And if they will not preſent ſuch enormities as require reformation, the Miniſter himſelf, (being the Perſon that ſhould have the chief care for the ſuppreſſing of ſin and impiety in the Pariſh) may preſent the ſame.

FINIS.